

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1        1 (Currently Amended). A method of attracting customers in a bulletin  
2        board supplied from a server connected to a plurality of clients via a  
3        network, comprising the step of:  
4                electronically giving a contributing client connected to the server a  
5        predetermined benefit depending on the level of a reaction from ~~another~~ an  
6        evaluating client with respect to an article which has been contributed to  
7        the bulletin board by said contributing client.
  
- 1        2 (Currently Amended). A method of attracting customers in a bulletin  
2        board, comprising the steps of:  
3                storing ~~an article~~ articles contributed to a the bulletin board  
4        ~~supplied to a client~~ in a server, said articles being contributed by ~~from~~ a  
5        plurality of clients connected to the server;  
6                supplying the an article stored in the server to ~~another~~ an evaluating  
7        client; and  
8                giving ~~the~~ a contributing client which has contributed the article a  
9        predetermined benefit depending on the level of a reaction from said ~~other~~  
10        evaluating client with respect to said article.
  
- 1        3 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein said level  
2        of a reaction from the ~~other~~ evaluating client serves as a criterion to give  
3        the contributing client said benefit comprises an evaluation made by said  
4        ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article.
  
- 1        4 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 2, wherein said level  
2        of a reaction from the ~~other~~ evaluating client serves as a criterion to give  
3        the contributing client said benefit comprises an evaluation made by said

4        ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article.

1        5 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 3, wherein said  
2        criterion to give the contributing client said benefit comprises a  
3        quantitative value depending on the number of answers from evaluating  
4        clients which have evaluated the article.

1        6 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 4, wherein said  
2        criterion to give the contributing client said benefit comprises a  
3        quantitative value depending on the number of answers from evaluating  
4        clients which have evaluated the article.

1        7 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 3, wherein said  
2        evaluation made by said ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article  
3        comprises a multivalued quantitative value.

1        8 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 4, wherein said  
2        evaluation made by said ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article  
3        comprises a multivalued quantitative value.

1        9 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 3, further  
2        comprising the step of:  
3                giving said ~~other~~ evaluating client which has evaluated the article  
4        contributed to the bulletin board, said benefit depending on the number of  
5        times that ~~said~~ an evaluation has been entered.

1        10 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 4, further  
2        comprising the step of:  
3                giving said ~~other~~ evaluating client which has evaluated the article  
4        contributed to the bulletin board, said benefit depending on the number of  
5        times that ~~said~~ an evaluation has been entered.

1 11 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 9, further  
2 comprising the step of:  
3 giving said benefit to clients, among said plurality of clients, which  
4 have entered ~~said~~ an evaluation a number of times which is equal to or  
5 greater than a predetermined number.

1 12 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 10, further  
2 comprising the step of:  
3 giving said benefit to clients, among said plurality of clients, which  
4 have entered ~~said~~ an evaluation a number of times which is equal to or  
5 greater than a predetermined number.

1 13 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 5, further  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 totaling said quantatitive value over a predetermined period; and  
4 giving said contributing client said benefit depending on the totaled  
5 quantatitive value.

1 14 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 6, further  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 totaling said quantatitive value over a predetermined period; and  
4 giving said contributing client said benefit depending on the totaled  
5 quantatitive value.

1 15 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 5, further  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 evaluating the article by the evaluating client by voting for or  
4 against the article; and  
5 giving said contributing client said benefit depending on the  
6 number of votes for the articles from ~~the~~ other evaluating clients.

1       16 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 6, further  
2       comprising the steps of:  
3               evaluating the article by the evaluating client by voting for or  
4       against the article; and  
5               giving said contributing client said benefit depending on the  
6       number of votes for the articles from ~~the~~ other evaluating clients.

1       17 (Original). A method according to claim 1, wherein said benefit  
2       comprises points that can be added.

1       18 (Original). A method according to claim 2, wherein said benefit  
2       comprises points that can be added.

1       19 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 1, further  
2       comprising the step of:  
3               placing information other than the article contributed by the  
4       contributing client on the bulletin board.

1       20 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 2, further  
2       comprising the step of:  
3               placing information other than the article contributed by the  
4       contributing client on the bulletin board.

1       21 (Original). A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step  
2       of:  
3               providing a plurality of bulletin boards for respective  
4       predetermined categories.

1       22 (Original). A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step  
2       of:

3 providing a plurality of bulletin boards for respective  
4 predetermined categories.

1 23 (Original). A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step  
2 of:  
3 displaying the bulletin board following a page for purchasing  
4 merchandise.

1 24 (Original). A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step  
2 of:  
3 displaying the bulletin board following a page for purchasing  
4 merchandise.

1 25 (Currently Amended). A method of attracting customers in a bulletin  
2 board supplied from a server connected to a plurality of clients via a  
3 network, comprising the step of:  
4 displaying by the server on a client connected to the network an  
5 evaluation of an article which has been contributed to the bulletin board by  
6 a contributing client, by ~~another~~ an evaluating client.

1 26 (Currently Amended). A method of attracting customers in a bulletin  
2 board, comprising the steps of:  
3 electronically storing an article contributed to a bulletin board  
4 ~~supplied to a~~ contributed by a contributing client in a server from a  
5 plurality of clients connected to said server via a network;  
6 electronically supplying the article stored in the server to another  
7 client in the network; and  
8 displaying by the server on said contributing client an evaluation of  
9 said article by ~~another~~ an evaluating client.

1 27 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 25, further

2 comprising the step of:  
3 displaying the number of points assigned to said contributing client  
4 depending on the evaluation by the ~~other~~ evaluating client of the article  
5 which has been contributed to the bulletin board by ~~said~~ the contributing  
6 client.

1 28 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 26, further  
2 comprising the step of:  
3 displaying the number of points assigned to said contributing client  
4 depending on the evaluation by the ~~other~~ evaluating client of the article  
5 which has been contributed to the bulletin board by said contributing  
6 client.

1 29 (Currently Amended). A system using a bulletin board, comprising:  
2 a plurality of clients;  
3 an information transmitting server connected to said plurality of  
4 clients via the Internet, for supplying a bulletin board to said plurality of  
5 clients and giving a contributing client a predetermined benefit depending  
6 on the level of a reaction from ~~another~~ an evaluating client with respect to  
7 an article which has been contributed to the bulletin board by said  
8 contributing client; and  
9 a customer information managing server for managing information  
10 of the plurality of clients including said benefit.

1 30 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 29, wherein said  
2 reaction from ~~the other~~ said evaluating client serves as a criterion to give  
3 the contributing client said benefit comprises an evaluation made by said  
4 ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article.

1 31 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 29, wherein said  
2 criterion to give the contributing client said benefit comprises a

3 quantitative value depending on the number of answers from evaluating  
4 clients which have evaluated the article.

1 32 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 30, wherein said  
2 evaluation made by said ~~other~~ evaluating client with respect to said article  
3 comprises a multivalued quantitative value.

1 33 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 30, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for giving said ~~other~~  
3 evaluating client which has evaluated the article, said benefit depending  
4 on the number of times that said evaluation has been entered.

1 34 (Original). A system according to claim 33, wherein said information  
2 transmitting server comprises means for giving said benefit to clients,  
3 among said plurality of clients, which have entered said evaluation a  
4 number of times which is equal to or greater than a predetermined number.

1 35 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 31, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for totaling said  
3 quantitative value over a predetermined period, and giving said  
4 contributing client said benefit depending on the totaled quantitative value.

1 36 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 30, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for rejecting an  
3 evaluation of said article from the contributing client which has  
4 contributed the article.

1 37 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 36, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for rejecting ~~an~~ another  
3 evaluation of the same article from the same evaluating client.

1 38 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim ~~32~~ 31, wherein said  
2 ~~other~~ evaluating client comprises means for evaluating the article by voting  
3 for or against the article, and said information transmitting server  
4 comprises means for giving said contributing client said benefit depending  
5 on the number of votes for the articles from ~~the~~ evaluating clients.

1 39 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 29, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for giving said  
3 contributing client points that can be added as said benefit.

1 40 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 29, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for placing information  
3 other than the article contributed by the contributing client on the bulletin  
4 board.

1 41 (Original). A system according to claim 29, wherein said information  
2 transmitting server comprises means for providing a plurality of bulletin  
3 boards for respective predetermined categories.

1 42 (Original). A system according to claim 29, wherein said information  
2 transmitting server comprises means for supplying a page with the bulletin  
3 board displayed therein in combination with a page for purchasing  
4 merchandise.

1 43 (Currently Amended). A system using a bulletin board, comprising:  
2 a plurality of clients; and  
3 an information transmitting server connected to said clients via the  
4 Internet, for electronically supplying a bulletin board to said clients and  
5 displaying an evaluation of an article contributed by a contributing client to  
6 said bulletin board by ~~another~~ an evaluating client, on said contributing  
7 client.



1 44 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 43, wherein said  
2 information transmitting server comprises means for displaying, on said  
3 contributing client, the number of points assigned to said contributing  
4 client depending on the evaluation by the ~~other~~ evaluating client of the  
5 article which has been contributed to the bulletin board by said  
6 contributing client.

1 45 (Currently Amended). A server connected to a plurality of clients via  
2 the Internet, for supplying a bulletin board to said clients and giving a  
3 contributing client a predetermined benefit depending on the level of a  
4 reaction from ~~another~~ an evaluating client with respect to an article which  
5 has been contributed to the bulletin board by said contributing client.